AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRI-SHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The domestic product;in of oil palm seedlings is at pres at limited to the ' Central Plantation Crop Research Institute (CPCRI) at Palode which has a capacity of producing about 4 lakh seeds per annmm. The demand for oil palm seedlicgs during Eighth Plan period is estimated at 17 mifiion-and therefore the balance quantity is required to be imported.

(c) Three seed gardens, one each in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala have been sanctioned to meet the future demand for oil palm seeds.

(d) Around 2.6 million oil palm seedlings were imported during the year 92-93 from Costa Rica, Ivory Coast, Benin & Papua New Guinea as a price varying from US P 0.42 to 0.45 per seedling depending upon the size of the order.

Farmers' attack on ANC in Karnataka

684. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :
SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:

" Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the farmers' attack on the multinational companies of Florida which arc setting up a neem seed p ant at Tumkur and Pioneer Hybri . Seeds Limited at Ranebennur in D harwad district in Karnataka in s ppport of their demand for banningj the entry of MNCs. in the seed sector a id the Dunkel drcft properts and

(b) if *to,* what are tho details in this regard and Government's reaction thereto ?

. THE IvIINIST: I OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVEMTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF TIE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE '(SHRI S-KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) There is no report of attack by farmers on the multinational company for neem seed plant at Tumkur and Pioneer'Hybrid Seeds Limited at Rahebennur in Dfaar-wad district, Karnataka.

Production of Cocoa in the Comrtry

685. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI K.K- VEERAPPAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state,:

(a) what had been the internal production of cocoa during the fast three years, year-wise and demand of raw nuts ;

(b) what has been the peak and low market price of raw nuts during this period ;

(c) what steps have been taken to increase the production of cocoa in the country.

(d) whether there is any proposal to abolish the excise duty as in case of coffecern and tea or at least reduce it in order to encourage cocoa cultivation in the country; and (e) whether any memorandum has been received from cocoa cultivators in the past; if so, what were its contents and what action has since been taken thereon ? .

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NET AM) :(a)The rough estimates of production of cocoa during the last three years Is given below:—

	(Tonnes)
1990-91 . . .	6622
1991-92 . . .	7281
1992-93 . . .	6757

The annual demand for cocoa beans is estimated about 8000 tonnes.

(b) The low and peak market prices of cocoa beans,(wet) during the period 1990-91 to 1992-93 are given below :

Year	Low (Rs./Kg.)	Peak (Rs./Kg.)
1990-91	7·50	7·50
1991-92	7·50	14·50
1992-93	14·50	22·00

(c) A Ceutnil Sector Scheme for the development of cocoa *is* being implemented for increasing the production and productivity of cocoa in the country. The fallow ing programmes are taken up under thje Scheme :

(i) establishement and maintenance of demonstration plots to encourage scientific manuring and plant protection;

(ii) providing assistance for setting up of irrigation units :

(in) establishment of demonstration plots of high yielding clones in the farmers field;

(iv) production and distribution of cocoa seedlings ;

(v) rejuvenation of unproductive cocoagardaas; and

(vi) providing financial assistance to co-operatives for orga-aising nwrketing and processing of cocoa beans.

(d) At present *there* is no propo sal to abolish or reduce the excise duty on cocoa nd cocoa based products.

(e) Various memorandums were received from the cocoa cultivators with the following demands :

(i) ban on import of cocoa beans to ensure remunerative price to cocoa farmers ; and

(ii) reduction in excise duty on cocoa products.

The concerned Ministries were requested to look in to the matter.

तिलहनों का उत्पादन

686. **श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर :** क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस समय कुल कितने क्षेत्र पर तिलहनों की खेती की जा रही है तथा उसमें से कितने क्षेत्र में सिंचाई की सुविधायें उपलब्ध हैं ;

(ख) वर्ष 1992–93 के दौरान विभिन्न किस्म के तिलहनों का अलग-अलग कितना उत्पादन हुआ है ; और

(ग) वर्ष 1993–94 के दौरान अलग-अलग तेलों के निर्यात के लिए क्या लक्ष्य निर्धारित किए गए हैं ;

गैर-पारम्परिक ऊर्जा स्रोत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री एस० कृष्ण कुमार) : (क) 1992–93 के दौरान तिलहन के तहत कुल अनुमानित क्षेत्र 253.3 लाख हैक्टेयर था । नवीनतम उपलब्ध अनुमान के अनुसार 1989 90 में तिलहन के तहत कुल 228.00 लाख हैक्टेयर में से 44.95 लाख हैक्टेयर सिंचित था ।